

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 292936 TOSEC 310389

FOLLOWING REPEAT HONG KONG 13908 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
PEKING SINGAPORE TAIPEI TOKYO FBIS OKINAWA CINCPAC DTD 30 NOV

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 13908

NOFORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINR PFOR CH

SUBJECT: CHIAO KUAN-HUA ALREADY OUT?

REFC (A) HK 13803 (B) PEKING 2375 (C) HK 13167

1. RECENT STORIES ABOUT THE POLITICAL MISFORTUNES OF CHIAO KUAN-HUA HAVE BEEN GIVEN ADDED DIMENSION BY SEVERAL COMMENTS FROM KWANGTUNG TRAVELERS. A SOURCE IN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT TOLD A CONGEN OFFICER THAT CANTON TRAVELERS NOW REPORT THAT CHIAO IS ONLY AN ORDINARY PARTY MEMBER -- CHIAO HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE TENTH CENTRAL COMMITTEE IN ADDITION TO HOLDING THE FOREIGN MINISTER PORTFOLIO. THE JOINT APPEARANCE OF VICE FOREIGN MINISTERS HAN NIEN-LUNG AND YU CHAN IN THE LIST OF TOP OFFICIALS ATTENDING THE ALBANIAN LIBERATION RECEPTION--
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(NCNA NOVEMBER 29) ALSO ACALL ATTENTION TO CHIAO'S ABSENCE. ALL

OTHER VICE MINISTERS ARE CARRIED MUCH LOWER IN THE LISTING
RAISING THE POSSIBILITY THAT AT THIS TIME THE MINISTRY IS IN THE
HANDS OF HAN AND YU.

2. ANOTHER SOURCE, AN OVERSEAS CHINESE WHO HAD BEEN RESIDING
WITH RELATIVES IN CANTON, TOLD A LOCAL JOURNALIST THAT SHE HAD
HEARD CANTON GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WERE OPENLY DISCUSSING THE
FACT THAT CHIAO KUAN-HUA WAS AMONG THE INDIVIDUALS NAMED TO
CHANG CHUN-CHIAO'S "CABINET" (REFTEL A). IN PARTICULAR, THESE
AND OTHER PERSONS IN CANTON TOLD THE WOMAN THAT CHIAO'S PROBLEM
WAS SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO HIS WIFE'S TIES TO CHIANG CHING
(REFTELS B & C). TA KUNG PAO EDITOR, FEI I-MIN, WHO RECENTLY
RETURNED FROM CANTON, TOLD ANOTHER WESTERN JOURNALIST HE "FELT"
CHIAO WAS IN TROUBLE AND THAT THE FEMALE TIE, CHANG HAN-CHIH'S
LINK TO CHIANG CHING, WAS THE REASON. FEI DID STATE, HOWEVER,
THAT HE HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY GUIDANCE FROM PEKING ON THIS.
ANOTHER LOCAL JOURNALIST COMMENTS THAT ON ONE OCCASION HE SAW
CHANG HAN-CHIH WITH CHIANG CHING AND FELT THAT CHANG WAS PAR-
TICULARLY DEFERENTIAL TO MAO'S WIFE.
CROSS UNQTE ROBINSON

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